

Message Text

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TAGS: EMIN, ITC

SUBJECT: BOLIVIAN NON-RATIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL TIN
AGREEMENT

1. THE DEPARTMENTAL SPOKESMAN HAS BEEN PROVIDED WITH THE
FOLLOWING QUESTION AND ANSWER FOR USE IN RESPONDING TO
PRESS INQUIRIES CONCERNING THE U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARDS
BOLIVIA'S DECISION TO NOT RATIFY THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL
TIN AGREEMENT:

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QUOTE: Q. WHAT IS THE REACTION OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE
DECISION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF BOLIVIA NOT TO RATIFY THE
FIFTH INTERNATIONAL TIN AGREEMENT BY DECEMBER 31, THEREBY
CASTING DOUBT ON THE FUTURE OF THE AGREEMENT?

A. THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL TIN AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO

FORCE PROVISIONALLY ON JULY 1, 1976. THE UNITED STATES
SIGNED THE AGREEMENT ON MARCH 11, 1976 AND RATIFIED IT ON
OCTOBER 28, 1976. UNDER THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT, IT
MUST BE RATIFIED BY NINE CONSUMER COUNTRIES REPRESENTING
300 CONSUMER VOTES AND BY SIX PRODUCER COUNTRIES REPRESENT-
ING 950 PRODUCER VOTES FOR IT TO ENTER INTO FORCE
DEFINITIVELY. A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF CONSUMER RATIFICATION
INCLUDING THAT OF THE US, HAVE ALREADY BEEN OBTAINED.
HOWEVER, BOLIVIA'S DECISION NOT TO RATIFY BY DECEMBER 31,
1976 MEANS THE FIFTH AGREEMENT CANNOT ENTER INTO FORCE
DEFINITIVELY ON JANUARY 1, 1977. WE REGRET THE DECISION
OF THE BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT NOT TO JOIN THE GREAT MAJORITY
OF TIN CONSUMERS AND PRODUCERS WHICH NEGOTIATED THE FIFTH
INTERNATIONAL TIN AGREEMENT BY GIVING IT EARLY RATIFICATION
WE HOPE THE GOVERNMENT OF BOLIVIA WILL RECONSIDER ITS
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POSITION AND WILL RATIFY THE AGREEMENT EARLY IN THE NEW
YEAR.

UNDER THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT, THE EXECUTIVE CHAIR-
MAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL TIN COUNCIL MUST NOW CONVENE A
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL TO CONSIDER THE POSITION. IF THE
BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT DOES NOT RATIFY THE AGREEMENT BY JUNE
30, 1977, THEN THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL TIN AGREEMENT WOULD
EXPIRE AND IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO NEGOTIATE A NEW
AGREEMENT. UNQUOTE.

2. POSTS MAY WISH TO DRAW ON THE STATEMENT IN RESPONDING
TO LOCAL PRESS OR GOVERNMENT INQUIRIES.
ROBINSON

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